US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



ecology and environment, inc.

International Specialists in the Environment

FT1305 Job Number

Preliminary assessment.

Gary Development, Inc.

OFF SIPS Reconnaissance

E & E Emergency Response Center: (716) 684-8940

E & E Corporate Center: (716) 684-8060

MEDTOX Hotline: (501) 370-8263

E & E Safety Director (Home): (716) 655-1260

OFF SITE RECONNAISSANE DATE! WEATHER: ARRIVAL MMS! 12 45 CHRONOLOGY OF OSIZ ON PAGES! PERSONEL! David Stoddard Valence Furce!

CONTENTS

The Gary Development, Inc. facility is an active sanitary landfill that is operating under Indiana State Board of Health Permit Number 45-2. This facility was constructed in an abandoned, water filled, sand quarry that lies adjacent to the Grand Calumet River in northeastern Indiana. The current operator of this site obtained a sanitary landfill construction permit, from the state agency that required the dewatering of this quarry, the lining of the sidewalls with clay, the emplacement of two clay barrier walls (west and south), the installation of a leachate collection system, and the emplacement of four perimeter monitoring wells. The construction was completed and passed state inspection before the operator began accepting solid waste for disposal in September, 1974. It should be noted that after the operating permit was issued in 1975, the State Board of Health began questioning the adequacy of the aforementioned systems at this facility. The construction of the above systems at this site has created an artificially induced low water table under this site. The water table is depressed about thirty (30) feet. This depression may be causing the surrounding groundwater to seep into this site through the clay liner. This possible seepage along with leachate from disposed waste and precipitation runoff are collected and discharged from the site. Therefore, the leachate collection system maintains this depressed water table. The possibility that hazardous waste deposited at this site might migrate off site via the natural groundwater flow is remote. However, once the facility is closed and the on-site water table is allowed to recover from this negative influence, the question of hazardous waste migration via the groundwater route will have to be reassessed. Therefore, the adequacy of this site's clay liner will have to be evaluated before the site is closed.

The source or sources of any contaminated groundwater found at or near this site becomes a complex problem because there are twelve (12) alleged or known hazardous waste sites within a two (2) mile radius. Five (5) of these sites border the perimeter of this landfill. These sites are Vulcan Material Metal Division surface impoundment (west perimeter), City Service refinery tank bottom dump (northwest perimeter), Conservation Chemical surface impoundments (northeast perimeter), Gary Airport Dump (east perimeter), Grand Calumet River (south perimeter), Cliff Rolland Dump (northeast), 9th Avenue Dump (south), Midco II (south), Midco II (northeast), unnamed dump (adjacent to south side of river), and the City of Gary Landfill (south). See partial topographic map for detailed location.

The liquid waste from the leachate collection system was discharged to the Grand Calumet River for a number of years without an NPDES permit. This practice was stopped by the operator as a result of a 1983 consent decree settlement with the state. Since that settlement,

the operator has been mixing the liquid leachate with lime and fly ash to form a rock like cover material. The lime mix forms a hydrated calcium carbonate that traps the leachate impurities.

Gary Development has petitioned for and received approval from the State Board of Health to accept a number of industrial wastes. Some of these industrial wastes are considered hazardous waste. These industrial wastes contain varying amounts of hazardous compounds. Some of these hazardous compound types are heavy metals, asbestos, inorganic acids and bases, and oils. A list of the waste types and waste quantities is documented in the consent decree settlement between the two parties.

The subject facility is one of three (3) state permitted sanitary landfills in northern Indiana. There are a large number of unpermitted landfills and dumps in this area that do not meet minimum state health requirements. Four (4) of these unpermitted sites lie within two (2) miles of subject facility. They are the Wheeler Landfill, the Samocki Brothers Dump, the Cliff Rolland Dump, and the City of Gary Municipal Dump. The latter dump site meets the fewest minimum state health requirements. This city dump is 100 acres of raw refuse that is reportedly burned three (3) times each year. This site lies in a sand quarry that is neither lined nor covered. The operator of the Gary Development facility complained that because of state agency impropriety, his competitors enjoy a distinct monetary advantage that is slowly forcing him out of business.

A memo summarizing the results of the water samples collected at this site is forthcoming.

Note: Gary Development, Inc. has requested a copy of the report.

GARY TOPO MAP (PORTION) • • • AN NAMED DUMP gin AVE Dume GOT RY Duma

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Verification of file information as observed by FIT during off-site reconnaissance.

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Active facility

2) Condition of Site
-size | discription of blags. | features and
description

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Vulcan
chem 3 smaller storage bldgs (approx 50 x 60')

1 office blag near landfill

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6) Tocation of surface water.
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(4) locations & types of	Lensitive environment
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(3) Description of Waste So	ource (s)
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I landfill area.	_b
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	12 miles

6 Containment of Wask Sources

partial vegetation on land (1)

Distressed regetation on-site none observed.

(8) Workers on-site

- 2-3 observed near office - others unknown.

(9) p	ossible	presence	of.	others	On-site
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B) Site Land asc constances

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- 18 site totals.

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(1) Surrounding land use Industrial [communical

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